

**Citizens Advisory Committee  
Highway, Road and Bridge Subcommittee**

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**Aeronautics Auditorium  
2700 East Airport Service Drive  
Capital City Airport**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 18, 2008**

Start Time: 9:15 a.m.

**Present:** Brent Bair, Mickey Blashfield, Dan DeGraaf, Russell Gronevelt, James Klette, Keith Ledbetter, William McFarlane, Steward Sandstrom, Kirk Steudle, Robert Struck.

**Absent:** Mike Fikes.

Mr. Struck opened the meeting and allowed members to introduce themselves and summarize their objectives for the work of the Subcommittee.

Mr. Struck solicited comments from members of the public in the audience.

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion was seconded and minute from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Struck distributed and discussed a draft agenda for the meeting. Motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded and the agenda for the meeting as unanimously approved.

Housekeeping

Mr. Struck noted that five meetings remain for the work of the Subcommittee after today. He discussed the conduct of the meetings. Members agreed the meetings should be guided by the Chair at his discretion.

Mr. Struck led a discussion of subcommittee timeline. Members felt that a draft report or outline would be needed by the first meeting of the Intermodal Subcommittee on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Report by the Asset Management Council

A Presentation was delivered by Carmine Palombo, Transportation Director of SEMCOG, and Steve Warren, Deputy Director of the Kent County Road Commission, representing the Asset Management Council, on asset management for local road pavements. Questions and discussion

followed. Presenters noted that the fourth asset management report will be presented to the Michigan Transportation Commission on April 24, 2008. The subcommittee would like copies of the report once it is made available publicly.

#### Report on Data Sources by the Road Commission for Oakland County

David Evancoe, Director of Planning and Development for the Road Commission of Oakland County, presented a summary of information from a variety of sources, on the needs over the next 6 to 22 years and the costs to motorists of doing nothing. Questions and discussion followed.

#### Old Business

Tim Hoeffner reported that the web site was off to a slow start but that information and helpful resources have been, and will continue to be, posted to the CAC web site. Mr. Hoeffner noted that links are preferred over bulky data for CAC resources, and are to be sent to the TF2 web address, with a backup note to Ouida Ford at MDOT.

Mr. Struck discussed the request he made to Gretchen Driscoll for data on city and village road conditions and needs. Mr. Struck indicated that Mrs. Driscoll has only recently received the request to collect needs information from cities and villages. Mr. Struck will follow up with Mrs. Driscoll, however the group noted that this data may be unavailable.

#### New Business

Mr. Struck led a discussion of the subcommittee process and the desired outcome of each meeting and the final subcommittee report. Members mentioned several features they felt were important regarding the final report. Ideas that were discussed included: the notion that the report should be vehicle to inform, educate and motivate the public and the legislature, that it should be simple and easy to understand, that it should be brief, and that the validity of the underlying data is important.

Mr. Ledbetter discussed how some traffic accidents are starting to be attributed to potholes. Data may be available from MSP traffic-crash statistics. Mr. Struck will inquire of the GTSAC about crash-causation data.

Mr. Struck led discussion of whether the subcommittee members wish to continue receiving presentations. Consensus seemed to be to hear reports if they are useful.

Mr. Bair indicated that the RCOC staff will take the lead on providing an outline for a draft report and will report back on progress (or with a working draft) at the next meeting.

Mr. Struck led a discussion on the additional information that will be helpful to the subcommittee. Mr. Steudle offered to have MDOT staff present information on bridge conditions. Mr. Steudle also offered to check into what data MDOT has available on road appurtenances such as signing, signals, shoulders, drainage, vegetation, guardrail, pavement marking, lighting, sidewalks and non-motorized provisions, pump houses and others.

## Public Comment

Mr. Struck invited public comments from among those in attendance.

John Niemela, Director, County Road Association of Michigan, discussed the asset management report. He also cited as a possible source of useful information “Act 51 reports” that show the types of projects local road-agencies spend their money on. Discussion followed. Susan Mortel, Director, Bureau of Transportation Planning, Michigan Department of Transportation, indicated that she would inquire of the Asset Management Council and report back on the question of how easily existing asset management data covering only federal-aid eligible roads can be extrapolated to the rest of the local system, which includes much unpaved mileage.

End Time: 12:20 pm.